

French infantry continued to gain ground ; the Imperial Guard advanced with irresistible impetuosity, and Friunt's grenadiers threatened the mill of Hussy, near !>ry. In vain did the Prussian cavalry attempt to .shake these superb masses of infantry. Napoleon had now penetrated through the Prussian line, and hail thereby so disorganized their formation that there remained for Gnciscnuu, who temporarily filled Blucher's post, no other resource than to make an orderly retreat. This was successfully siecowplished. l>ry was not evacuated by them until the morning of the 17th. This battle, though unattended with any material consequences in itself, was contested with a determination based upon the most implacable hatred on both sides. The Prussians could not have forgotten the humiliating recollections of Jena, the destruction of their army, the subjugation of their country by Napoleon, and the part they were compelled to take in tin\* invasion of Russia; they knew also the character of their enemy, and how little mercy they wen\* to ex|\*\*ct at his hands in ease of defeat. The French, on the\* other hand, were smarting at the recent discomfiture they had exjH'ricnced, in \vhieh the Prussians had conspicuously assisted. The illusion of their glory had been dispelled by enemies whom they affected utterly to despise. But alx>ve all, the French soldier looked up to Napoleon with a devotion, with an enthusingism of affection that elevated his feelings to the highest pitch of human energy. In the course of the night the Prussian army fell back on Tilly and (lemhloux towards Wavre. Their loss at Ligny, according to their own account, amounted to 14,<HH) men and 15 pieces of cannon. The Frinich official account in the *Moniteur* makes it reach to 1{J,(KX>. On their own hide tin\* French acknowledge, a loss of 7CMKK<sup>1</sup>

At the moment of the interview between the I hie of Wellington and Klueher the enemy's forw\* lM>ft>re Qtiatre BniH was so insignificant that there appeared to In\* no probability of a decided attack being made, in that quarter. On Wellington's return, however, to the British (mHitiou abmit three o'clock in the afternoon, he, found, that a ftcmttiii'rabla Innly

**i Thiem (tome xx. pp. 100,101)** put\* th« Prtiwlwi **toUl**  
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